

Eastern Germany

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COUNTRY Drewitz Airfield

TOPIC

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 12 August to 13 September 1952 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 20 October 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 12 August 1952, [REDACTED] intensive construction work at Drewitz airfield, [REDACTED] the installation was scheduled to be enlarged considerably. 25X1 25X1
2. In late August, [REDACTED] concreting work at the field was making slow progress because of the shortage of labor and insufficient machinery. On 14 September, [REDACTED] concreting work had to be suspended because of defective machinery and difficulties in the water supply. Also the excavators as well as the steam and diesel locomotives employed at the installation frequently broke down. From 30 to 40 percent of all locomotives were continually under repair. A board fence was being built around the field. Five new low wooden buildings and two semi-permanent buildings were under construction at the old airfield area. 25X1 25X1
3. On 18 September, [REDACTED] only the borders of the runway at Drewitz airfield were being concreted for a length of about 1,000 meters. Twelve low wooden buildings were completed south of the road near the old hangar. In September, about 950 construction workers were employed at the field. About 50 Volkspolizei were assigned for guard duties. Concrete posts were being erected for a fence to be built around the installation. Work on the construction of semi-permanent buildings was in progress. About 600 workers were employed for this purpose in addition to the 950 construction workers mentioned above. Work on the semi-permanent buildings was scheduled to be done in two shifts after 22 September. Convicts were among the workers employed. The spur track from the Grabow block station to the airfield was completed. Narrow-gauge field railroad tracks branched off from its end to the various construction sites. 25X1
4. In early September, [REDACTED] work on the construction of the runway was to be started soon. 25X1 25X1
5. On 7 September, the councillor of the Cottbus district announced that labor offices of the district would send sizeable numbers of workers from all over the Cottbus area to Drewitz airfield.

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\* [redacted] Comment. The report indicates that construction work at Drewitz airfield is making good progress in spite of technical difficulties. A total of 1,500 workers working two shifts is employed there. The information that the runway at the field will have a length of 2,500 meters a width of 60 meters and a thickness of 30 cm is believed to be correct. The statement [redacted] [redacted] that the installation will be used by the Volkspolizei may be correct. 25X1

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Drewitz is in the same area as Cottbus, Bautzen and Hanover airfields which are believed to be turned over to the Volkspolizei.

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